

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Yoshihisa Suda et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1795
Application No.: 10/624,840)	Examiner: JOHN S MAPLES
Filed: July 23, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 6579
For: DIRECT METHANOL FUEL CELL)	
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action of December 15, 2008, indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different Groups. As identified in the Official Action, the different Groups are as follows:

Group I, recited in Claims 21 and 23-28, drawn to a first fuel cell; and

Group II, recited in Claims 22 and 29-35, drawn to a second fuel cell.

Based on the observation that the two Groups are distinct from one another, a restriction requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two Groups.

Applicants hereby elect Group I, recited in Claims 21 and 23-28, with traverse.

The election of Group I is made with traverse because it is believed that all of the claims of this application can be examined at the same time without serious burden. In one respect, the search required for the non-elected Group would be substantially coextensive with the search associated with the elected Group. In

addition, examining all of the claims of this application at the same time would only involve consideration of a few additional claims.

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of restriction requirement and examination of all of the claims of this application, including Claims 21 and 23-28 directed to the elected Group, are respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicants regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 14, 2009

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